



Free State Chapter 141

MD, PA, VA, WV

April / May – No.2012-03

Chapter 141

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For more information about the chapter, you may contact the President Lou Orsini by email oh2batc@verizon.net or phone 703-352-7260.

Feedback or questions pertaining to the Newsletter should be addressed to Al Bush at: agbush172@verizon.net or (410)531-5307.

President's Message

Isn't this just the best time of the year? I love springtime in this area; it is usually beautiful weather - perhaps too nice since we have a rain deficit right now. For us sports fans, it doesn't get much better. March madness in college basketball just finished; hockey playoffs are in full swing; pro basketball playoffs are about to begin; the boys of summer have started their season; and even football is getting headlines with spring football for colleges and the pro football draft on the near horizon. Springtime also marks the annual Woodsboro Joint Meeting, which was a huge success. Nearly all mart tables were filled and transactions were brisk. There were plenty of bargains to be had, and buyers were taking advantage of the lower prices. Better yet, it was a wonderful opportunity to chat with fellow members that you don't see all the time. I was particularly pleased to see **Dan Webber** wheeling his way around the hall as he recovers from a most serious car accident. Dan asked me to thank everyone for all their well wishes, and for the goodie basket we sent him. And if you were not at our last meeting, you missed a most informative and interesting presentation by **Bob Rothen** on tribology and the effects of friction on clock and watch works; a subject of importance to everyone.

The coming of spring means summer can't be too far behind, and with summer comes our **annual picnic**. Once again, **Bob & Patsy Rothen** are most graciously opening their home for our picnic on Saturday, June 23rd - please see the enclosed notice

for details. And with summer comes **time once again to renew your membership** for another year. Our fiscal year goes from July 1 to June 30, and so **Neil Amrine** will be asking for next year's dues at the meeting. Once again, we are keeping the cost at just \$8/year; it's hard to find a better bargain anywhere. If you are not going to be at the meeting or the picnic, please send Neil your dues by mail.

Our **next meeting** is 9 May, and promises to be another good one. **Joe Abrams** will make a presentation on **American carriage clocks** in which he promises to reveal some little known facts. Joe's presentation is meant to be interactive, and he welcomes members to bring along your own carriage clocks to enhance the experience. If you have even a passing interest in these clocks, you will find his program most enjoyable.

Finally, as always, please **remember our brave men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan**, as well as other dangerous places throughout the world. Even as we draw down troops and support personnel in both locations, they remain very dangerous and challenging places where it's not always easy to tell friend from foe. Please take the opportunity to seek out and thank these brave young men and women for their faithful and unselfish service. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers, every day, until they return home.

Lou Orsini, president

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 9th, 2012 at The Cozy Inn

Minutes of Freestate Chapter 141 Meeting, March 14, 2012

The Freestate Chapter 141 meeting of 14 March 2012 was called to order by President Lou Orsini at 7:15 PM after the Mart and meal were concluded. Twenty five members were present and each person introduced themselves by discussing what field of Horology they were interested in and what they were always "looking" for. President Orsini reminded the members of the joint April meeting at Woodsboro and encouraged all who could, to attend and even assist if possible.

A letter was received from the British Horology Chapter 159 supplying information about their chapter. A Newsletter was supplied and this group appears to have very interesting meetings. If you are interested, please contact President Orsini for an email address.

A member who wished to remain anonymous donated several boxes of NAWCC Bulletin Magazines which were available to anyone who wanted to take them home.

Vice President Bob Rothen informed the membership about Dan Webber's accident and discussed the need to visit or keep in touch. Dan will be out of commission for quite some time and would appreciate some contact.

Treasurer Neil Amrine stated there was about \$2800. in the treasury. He also emphasized how important it was to RSVP for the meetings so the restaurant could have sufficient time to prepare a room for us!

"Treasurer's Tidbits"

Hi folks!

I would remind all members to send in their dues, if they are not fully paid... dues are due at the end of June. **Contact me at Neil54@aol.com, or call me at 301-229-2587 if you have questions.** I look forward to seeing everyone at the Cozy's in May. Please be prompt with your RSVPs for the meeting reservations. We need to know the head count for the meal so reservations can be made.

Thank you!!

Neil Amrine

Attention: It is important also to keep Joe Joyce (josephjoyce@comcast.net or 301-865-8464) advised of any change in your membership information, address changes, etc. *We cannot keep you informed if you don't keep us informed.*

FREE STATE CHAPTER 141 MEMBERSHIP-RENEWAL APPLICATION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Date _____ NAWCC No. _____ Interests _____

(CLOCKS, WATCHES, TOOLS, OTHER)

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Wish to Receive Newsletter via Email or US Mail

As of January 2007 Annual dues are only \$8.00 payable to Free State Chapter 141. Please send your check with this completed application to:

Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland, 20816. Phone:301-229-2587; email: neil54@aol.com

Bob Rothen again delighted us with an informative program on "Tribology", which is the study of the science and technology of interacting surfaces in relative motion. Tribology covers the entire area of friction and wear, including lubrication, and it includes the related mutual interactions between contacting surfaces, between solids and liquids and stable materials or gases. The entire program emphasized how an understanding of these physical principles and reactions related to the maintenance and lubrication of clocks and watches.



Bob Rothen spoke on Tribology related to Horology.

Our annual picnic is scheduled for Saturday, 23 June 10 AM to 2 PM . at Bob and Patsy's home in Hagerstown. Please RSVP to Neil Amrine if you plan to attend!!! Knowing how many people to expect make the planning much easier and insures a good time for all. Please plan on bringing your best treasures for the mart. Tables, space and shelter from the sun will be provided.

—Patsy Rothen (Secretary) 11 April 2012

If you have an interest in clocks or watches you are invited to Our Next Meeting

May 9th, 2012 at the Cozy Inn

CHAPTER 141 PROGRAM FOR MAY 9th, 2012



Our meeting presentation for May 9, 2012 will be "American Carriage Clocks". The presenter is Joe Abrams from Butler, Pennsylvania, a member of our Chapter and a long time collector of these clocks. Joe has always enjoyed these clocks and will be demonstrating their interesting characteristics with actual examples from his collection. Joe will have clocks representative of the entire spectrum of carriage clocks including some unique



Joe Abrams

miniatures. This presentation is very visual and informative and will be enjoyed by all.

Joe requests that member's who have an American carriage clock or one that you are unsure of its origin, please bring it along and perhaps he can identify it for you. Possibly he can discuss your clock as well.

—Bob Rothen

Meeting time is ~ Dinner: about 6:15 PM Mart: Come early for the mart Business/Program: follows dinner

MEETING RESERVATIONS: You may use the Meeting Reservation form below to mail in your reservations for the Free State Chapter 141 meetings. Please indicate the meeting date as you complete the form. You may also make reservations via e-mail to neil54@aol.com and providing Neil Amrine with the information requested on the meeting reservation form or by Calling Neil at 301-229-2587 and informing Neil directly. (Please RSVP at least 48 hours before the meeting date)

Cancellation Policy: Our policy on meeting cancellations is simple. If the Frederick schools are closed due to inclement weather on the day of our meeting, we will cancel. Otherwise, you can expect the meeting is on. In the event of a cancellation, Neil will try to contact everyone who has made reservations (especially those who don't live locally), but it's all based on the school decision. (Several Radio & TV stations in the region carry closure information including WMAR 2, WTTG 5, WJLA 7, WUSA 9, WBAL 11, WJZ 13, x 45, & WETA 26.)

Free State Chapter 141 Meeting Reservation Form

Reservation for Free State 141 Meeting on _____

Name _____

Guest Names _____

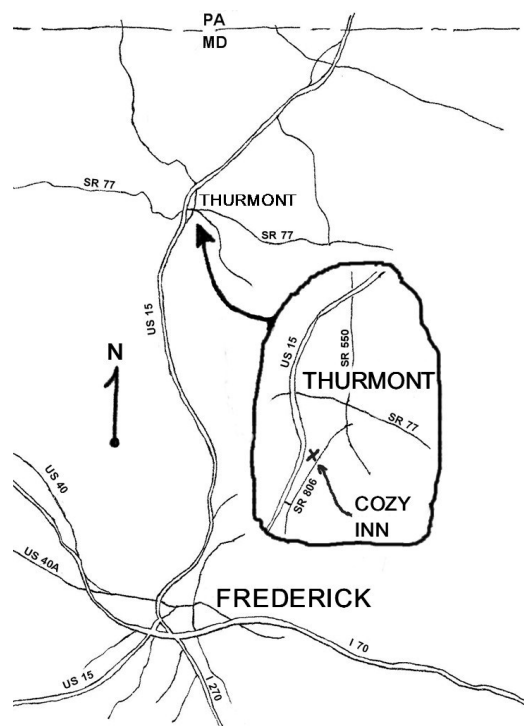
Number coming _____ x \$16.00 = Total \$ _____

Number of Mart Tables _____ (Mart Tables are Free)

Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Phone: 301-229-2587; email: neil54@aol.com.

Directions: Cozy Inn is in Thurmont, about 16 miles north of Frederick. Take Route 15N if coming from Frederick or 15 South if coming from PA. Take the Thurmont ramp to MD806 and go east on Thurmont Blvd (right if traveling north, left if traveling south) for about a quarter mile, then take a left on Route 806 (Frederick Road) heading north. The restaurant is about 0.4 mile on the left. If you need additional directions please call the Cozy Inn at 301-271-7373.



Tic Toc Tech Tips

Tips from Across the Sea, BHI

In the Dec-Jan Newsletter for 2011, I had written some bench tips involving the lathe. Recently I was looking up some information on the Internet and browsing through the British Horological Institute's website. I came across this item entitled "Lathe Tips". For those of you who are active on the Internet I would strongly recommend that you check out the BHI site. You can easily locate it using Google. The contents of this Internet article I found very interesting. It is as follows:

The British Horological Institute has archived and edited the following from e-mails sent to the [Clock/Clockers](#) mailing lists on the Internet. The information here does not necessarily indicate a method approved by the BHI, we are only publishing this digest so that others can decide for themselves whether the methods listed below will suit them.

From: Steve Callihan, Dewey Clark,

Thomas Roma

Advice for buying a lathe

1) Buy a complete setup (full set of collets minimum, but look for a setup that includes 3 jaw, 4 jaw, milling attach, slide rest, etc.). You will spend more in that very instant, but over 2 years you will spend far less. No one ever listens to this rule, but 3 years later they understand it.

2) All tools should be purchased with the idea that our family will sell them for us when we are done. Two implications: a) buy tools that you won't need to replace (see rule 1); b) buy tools that have demonstrated consistent demand (Levin, Derby, Boley, Lorch).

3) If you can afford it, or if you will primarily be working on clocks, get a 10mm lathe. These are more expensive, but they are held to the same tolerances, are more robust and were generally purchased by people who knew how to use and care for them. Every hack knew he had to have a bright chrome 8 mm lathe on his bench to impress customers. Only true machinists bothered to pay extra for the 10mm lathes.

4) Buy from someone you can trust. This has major implications for buying at the MARTs; unless you are buying a complete setup from someone for \$3000. If you are buying pieces/parts, you need to know who you are dealing with and you had better know what you are looking at. There are several established used tool dealers you can access. Established dealers usually understand the short-sightedness of sticking someone with a bad piece.

5) Bear in mind that lathes do not wear out, they are destroyed. Buying new equipment leaves out the middle man. I think you could get a pretty complete Sherline outfit for less than \$1000.

6) Take a course on practical lathe work

7) Download Bill Smith's articles on graver preparation from the clock site in Florida <http://www.netwide.net/users/clockdoc/>

Homemade collets

You must have the following items: A lathe, a new number 40 collet, 5/32 inch wood dowel or brass rod to fit the #40 collet, a jewellers saw (or Back saw), a set of good quality twist drills from #1 to # 80, A T-rest for your lathe, and a good sharp graver.

If you can't afford a full set of collets, you must make them as needed. To do this, pick a drill to produce the hole you need for your collet. Place a piece of 5/32 inch brass stock in the # 40 collet and tighten the drawbar. Part off the rod about a 1/4 inch from the face of the collet. Face off the end of the rod.

The following sizes make up the bulk of my hand-mades. The largest is 1/4 inch {6.35mm} #63 or 64 collet. The next is .2095 inch {5.32mm} #53 collet. The smallest is 5/32 inch {3.95mm} #40 collet.

1/2 to 5/8 inch length works pretty well for these sub-collets.

Use your graver to locate centre. Put the drill you selected in a pin vise and drill all the way through the rod. Remove the rod from the lathe and use the saw to make two slits 90 degrees from each other so that the end of the rod now has four fingers.

Carefully cut the slits to within 1/4 to 3/8 inch of the end of the rod. Now you have a usable Sub-collet to slip inside the # 40 which, when you tighten the drawbar, will tighten the fingers on the sub-collet down on your work piece.

Chucks

A Jacob's chuck will work for rough work like pivot polishing. More precise work such as re-pivoting will require a chuck with greater repeatable accuracy.

A four-jaw chuck is very versatile. In experienced hands these can produce amazing results. They are less user friendly than the 3-jaw self-centering chucks though.

I fully agree with their advice on buying a lathe, although I had been taught how to use and care for a lathe in college and often worked with a Levin before I retired. I still have much to learn. My Sherline has served me well and has been reasonably forgiving of my occasional misjudgments. In addition to it I have a very old Dunlop shop lathe (of sorts). If I were working on watches with their smaller parts I would find it desirable to

have a 10 mm lathe. At a later date I added one of Sherline's milling machines and Meritt's wheel and pinion cutting attachments. As is true in most of this type of work sharp tool bits are an asset, no they are a necessity. As a young kid who used a screwdriver for a chisel because my dad had no chisels, I long ago learned the benefits of getting the proper tools, learning how to use them and most important, how to care for them. Do so and they will serve you well. The photos above are my Sherline lathe and milling machine with attachments.

Many thanks to Callahan, Dewey, and Thomas. Their homemade chuck will be useful to me. I have used a similar technique but their approach seems better. By the way, if you work with the four jaw chuck a dial gauge is very useful to check out proper centering of your work. When I was in school we used to refer to it as an up-and-down gauge. Drove our very serious instructor nuts, but got the point across.



Al Bush 2012-03

NAWCC FREE STATE CHAPTER 141 ANNUAL PICNIC

SATURDAY JUNE 23, 2012

**PLACE: BOB & PAT ROTHEN'S HOME
20310 AYOUB LANE, HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND 21742**

**TIME: 11:00 AM -- 2:00 PM
FOOD SERVED @ 12:00 NOON**

This event is **FREE** to Chapter 141 members and your immediate family (spouse and children under 17 living at home). You may bring additional guests at \$15 each. We encourage you to bring along all those horological treasures you've been saving for just this occasion. There will be **MART** spaces set up in the driveway and garage for your convenience.

FOOD: We will have the same great picnic fare as in the past.

DIRECTIONS: Take **I-70** East or West (depending on which direction you are coming from) to **Exit 32B**. Merge onto Dual Highway toward Hagerstown. At the first light {**N. Edgewood Drive (East)**} make a right and go 0.44 miles. Turn right onto **Mt. Aetna**. Go 1.1 miles and turn left onto **Ayoub Lane**, entering Black Rock Estates between the two flag poles. **20310 is the first house on your left.**

Meeting Reservations: You may make your reservations with Neil Amrine in one of three ways: (1) by mail using the Picnic Reservation form below; (2) via e-mail [to neil54@aol.com](mailto:neil54@aol.com); or (3) by phone at 301-229-2587. *Phone or e-mail reservations need to include the information found on the form.* **To ensure we get the right amount of food (not too little or too much), reservations are required. Please make your reservations as soon as you can, but no later than Monday, June 18. It is also important that you show up if you make reservations; if you need to cancel, call Bob right away.**

Cancellation Policy: Bob has a large garage that should accommodate the group in case of inclement weather. Thus no cancellation or alternate date is planned.

Free State Chapter 141 Picnic Reservation Form

Name _____

Guest Names

Your reservation _____ **FREE** x \$0

Number Family members coming _____ x \$0

Number of Mart Tables _____ (**FREE**) \$0

Number Guests Coming _____ x \$15.00 = \$

Total \$ _____

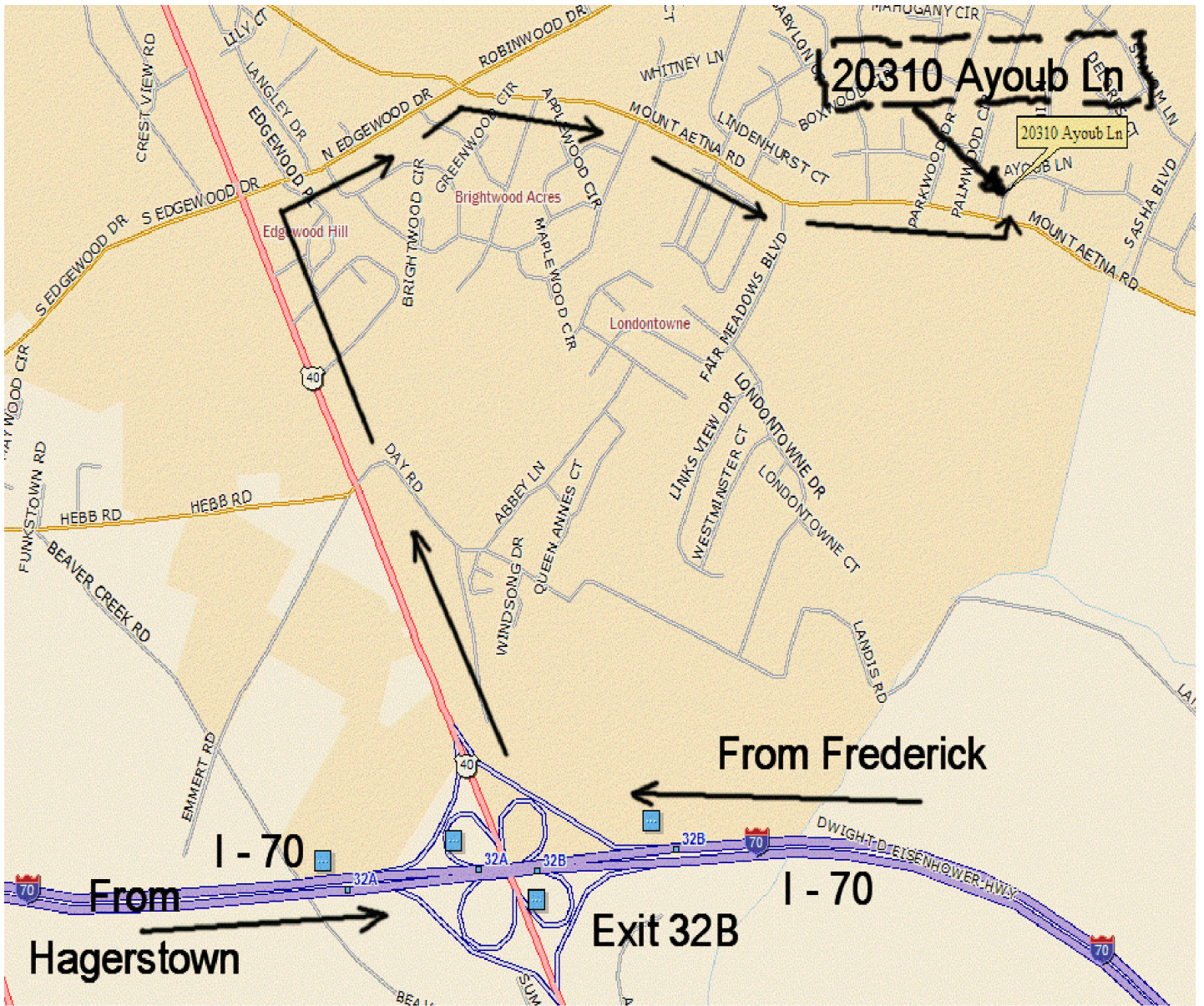
Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to:

Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Phone 301-229-2587

[email neil54@aol.com](mailto:neil54@aol.com) Any Questions?

Contact Bob Rothen at 240-420-6484 [or timefxr@aol.com](mailto:timefxr@aol.com)



Map to 2012 Picnic Site We hope to see you there!